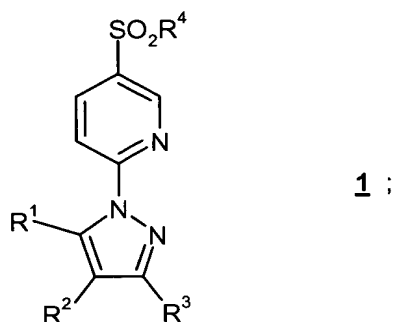


PROCESS FOR PREPARING HETEROCYCLO-ALKYLSULFONYL
PYRAZOLE DERIVATIVES

5

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

The invention relates to processes for preparing compounds of formula 1:



10

as well as intermediates useful in such processes, wherein $R^1 - R^4$ are as defined herein. The compounds of formula 1 are useful in the treatment or alleviation of inflammation and other inflammation associated disorders.